



REVISED SECTION 319 PROGRAM GUIDANCE AND GRANTS GUIDELINES

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Background

- ▣ OMB scrutiny led to National Nonpoint Source Study
- ▣ GAO Report
- ▣ OMB Agreement
- ▣ States & EPA Workgroups recommended changes
- ▣ National Meeting
- ▣ Regional Meeting



Revision of State Nonpoint Source Management Plans

- By end of 2013 50% of States will have updated plans
- By end of 2014 other 50% will be completed



Overview

- ▣ 50% NPS Program Funds
 - Implements State Nonpoint Source Management Plan
- ▣ 50% Watershed Project Funds
 - Implements 319 or other approved Watershed Based Plans
- ▣ Guidelines will apply when finalized (begin changes in 2013 to adapt current program)



State Nonpoint Source Management Plans

- Will have a prioritized approach to NPS management
- Will have Measurable Goals
- Will have Trackable Milestones
- Will be revised every 5 years

The Goal is Specificity:

- What and Where is it?
- Can we track?
- Can we measure results?



Goals

What? Where? How? With
whom? Roles? How much?

Milestones

Measures: Environmental,
Social, Financial

State Nonpoint Source Management Plans

- ▣ Will be coordinated with other CWA programs
 - ▣ Monitoring
 - ▣ TMDLs
 - ▣ SRF
- ▣ Will be coordinated with USDA EQIP Water Quality Initiative
- ▣ Partners eligible for funding will be identified for selected priorities



Allocation of Funds

- One year to obligate, balance nationally allocated to successful states
- 50% **NPS Program Funds**
 - Can pay for FTEs identified in the Management Plan
 - Can pay for activities identified in the Management Plan
 - Can pay for Statewide Projects



Allocation of NPS Program Funds

- ▣ Can pay for planning activities
 - Monitoring for Watershed Plan Development
 - Monitoring for NPS Load Allocation in TMDL Development
 - Development of NPS Load Allocation of TMDLs
 - Development of Watershed Based Plans (WBPs)
 - **Protection of High Quality Waters** at risk from nonpoint sources (must be identified in the Nonpoint Source Management Plan) however, a significant majority of the funds must go to restoration



Watershed Plans

- ❑ Watershed Project Funds can implement 319 or other approved watershed plans
- ❑ Plans must meet Section 319 nine (now 8) elements
- ❑ Alternative plans must meet 8 elements
- ❑ Alternative plans require EPA approval
- ❑ 319 Watershed Plans will be approved by EPA (minimum of one a year/state)
- ❑ Development of Plans must be funded under NPS Program Funds



Allocation of Watershed Project Funds

- Can pay for on the ground activities identified in WBPs previously developed
- Can pay for FTEs (state or local) **directly implementing** WBPs on the ground
- Can pay for success monitoring of WBPs as identified in WBPs



Other Provisions

- Alternatives to WBPs may be allowed for implementation if they meet the (formerly 9, now 8) elements identified as required in 319-funded watershed plans. These plans require EPA approval.
- Coastal States without CZARA Coastal Zone Management Approval will allocate \$100,000 per year until they meet program approval requirements



Other Provisions

- States that exceed their total NPS allocation in implementation of approved WBPs with state dollars (e.g., dedicated state funds, State Revolving Fund excluding current year EPA grant, etc.) will be exempted from 50% - 50% requirement with HQ approval
- Statutorily required Satisfactory Progress Determination (SPD) has been standardized and requires HQ submission. Unsatisfactory Progress Determination will lead to reallocation of state funds by HQ.
- States with PPGs will include information necessary for SPD in annual report



Transition Period in 2013

- ▣ Waiting for Final Guidelines
- ▣ Start or continue updating State NPS Plan
- ▣ Develop or utilize existing tools for prioritization (can fund if in NPS Management Plan)
- ▣ Begin any necessary shifts in 2014 solicitations for projects
 - Need Watershed Plans (Plan may need EPA approval)
 - Must be in identified priority areas or pertaining to priority issues in the State NPS Management Plan
 - Timing of solicitation must allow for obligation of funds prior to the end of the Fiscal Year.
- ▣ Begin the process for any necessary adjustments to FTEs or allocation to other programs and agencies



Questions

